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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/715,586	11/17/2000	Peter Worthington Hamilton	5922R2C	5737

27752 7590 01/06/2005

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY
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EXAMINER

CHANG, VICTOR S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1771

DATE MAILED: 01/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/715,586

Applicant(s)

WORTHINGTON HAMILTON ET AL.

Examiner

Victor S Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 November 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 14-18, 41-52, 54-58, 66, 81 and 95-109 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 14-18, 41-52, 54-58, 66, 81 and 95-109 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Introduction

1. The Examiner has carefully considered Applicants' remarks filed on 11/12/2004.
2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
3. Rejections not maintained are withdrawn.

Rejections Based on Prior Art

4. Claims 1-11, 14-18, 41-51, 54-58, 66, 81, 95-99, 101-107 and 109 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilbur (US 2338749) in view of Reed et al. (US 4054697), and further in view of the admitted prior art, substantially for the reasons set forth in section 4 of Office action dated 8/25/2004, together with the following additional response to argument.

With respect to Applicants' argument "the combination of the cited references is silent and does not even suggest providing a sheet of non-porous material having an adhesive continuously disposed thereon ... the combination of the Wilbur and Reed references fails to disclose, teach, suggest or render obvious every recited feature of Applicants' claimed invention" (Remarks, page 10), the Examiner repeats (see pages 3-4 of Office action dated 8/25/2004) that Wilbur's invention relates to wrappers of flexible paper or other equivalent sheet material (column 1, lines 1-3). Wilbur teaches that the invention can be embodied in a label, wrapper, envelope or other article of flexible sheet

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material intended for other uses (page 1, column 2, lines 34-37). Fig. 7 shows that an embodiment in which a multiplicity of pin punctures 16 each of which is surrounded by an outstanding tubular burr 17, and surrounded by a coating of permanently sticky or tacky adhesive 18. The outstanding burrs 17 serve as means for normally shielding the adhesive coating against accidental contact with other objects. When end portions are overlapped and pressed together, the burrs or bosses 17 are collapsed, the ends are united by the adhesive (page 2, column 1, line 48 to column 2, line 8). It is noted that Wilbur's pin puncture results a porous wrapper sheet material. However, Reed's invention is directed to a sheet material which is provided with a continuous coating of tacky, pressure-sensitive, adhesive. The adhesive coating is then provided with a coating of a discontinuous layer of resilient, non-adhesive particles. The coating of particles have the ability to be deformed under a load and thus, upon application to a support surface, deform, under pressure, to such an extent as to bring the adhesive and the surface into fuller contact (Abstract). As such, in the absence of unexpected results, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Wilbur's wrapper with a known equivalent deformable outstanding means of Reed's coating of deformable particles, i.e., substitute Wilbur's collapsible (deformable) burrs 17 with Reed's deformable resilient non-adhesive particles, motivated by the desire to obtain a non-porous wrapper for fully wrapped (sealed) applications, Applicants' argument to the contrary notwithstanding.

5. Claims 12, 52, 100 and 108 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilbur (US 2338749) in view of the admitted prior art, and further in

view of Reed et al. (US 4054697) and Kovac (US 3819467), substantially for the reasons set forth in section 5 of Office action dated 8/25/2004, together with the additional response to argument, as set forth above.

Conclusion

5. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor S Chang whose telephone number is 571-272-1474. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel H Morris can be reached on 571-272-1478. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VSC
Victor S Chang
Examiner
Art Unit 1771

12/28/2004


TERREL MORRIS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700